

# DRISI

CALTRANS DIVISION OF RESEARCH,  
INNOVATION AND SYSTEM INFORMATION

# Research Notes

Executive

JUNE 2023

Project Title:  
Evaluating Benefits from  
Transportation Investments aligned  
with the Climate Action Plan for  
Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI)

Task Number: 3523

Start Date: October 1, 2021

Completion Date: September 30,  
2023

Task Manager:  
Tyler Monson  
Senior Transportation Planner  
Tyler.monson@dot.ca.gov

## Evaluating Benefits from Transportation Investments aligned with the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI)

The research team will provide a framework for the ongoing evaluation of funding programs under the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Investment to highlight how the composition of projects is changing over time.

### WHAT IS THE NEED?

The Climate Action Plan for Transportation Investment (CAPTI), adopted in December of 2021, sets forth an ambitious policy framework to move California toward its climate goals. CAPTI is applicable to programs totalling \$5.5 billion in investment annually and provides a holistic framework and statement of intent that outlines needed changes to state transportation planning, project scoping, programming, and mitigation activities. A living document that can adapt, pivot, and modify approaches and actions, CAPTI calls for a structure to monitor and evaluate progress of the transportation sector's efforts to align with state climate, health, and equity goals. More information is needed on methods to track progress over time on emissions, equity, and economic outcomes.

### WHAT ARE WE DOING?

With support from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the research team will provide a holistic evaluation framework with two important goals:

1. Examine the emissions, economic, and social equity benefits of different types of transportation investments and strategies, such as Transportation Demand Management (TDM), Zero-Emissions Vehicle (ZEV) strategies, active transportation projects, transit improvements, operational improvements, and capacity expansions
2. Provide a toolkit of quantitative and qualitative metrics to consider for CAPTI evaluation and future decision-making.



DRISI provides solutions and  
knowledge that improves  
California's transportation system

## WHAT IS OUR GOAL?

The goal is to create an implementable tracking methodology that allows assessment of California's transportation investments at a broad programmatic level. While much more intensive and specific inquiry is needed to determine what caused changes in specific programs, this work will establish methods to determine correlating changes in the selected metrics over time

## WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

This research will help Caltrans evaluate benefits from transportation investments aligned with the CAPTI.

## WHAT IS THE PROGRESS TO DATE?

The project team has gathered and categorized project information across the seven funding programs of CAPTI. Preliminary analysis of energy and emissions impacts of transportation investment scenarios before and after Executive Order N-19-19 were presented to Caltrans in early June 2023. Equity analysis is underway, including the creation of maps and creation of a toolkit for programmatic assessment.

## IMAGES



Image 1: Photos depicting multi-modal travel  
Source: CAPTI

The contents of this document reflect the views of the authors, who are responsible for the facts and accuracy of the data presented herein. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the California Department of Transportation, the State of California, or the Federal Highway Administration. This document does not constitute a standard, specification, or regulation. No part of this publication should be construed as an endorsement for a commercial product, manufacturer, contractor, or consultant. Any trade names or photos of commercial products appearing in this document are for clarity only.